

**Ecological transition
starts with agronomy,
increasing IPM uptake
with biocontrol, and
significant pesticide
dependency reductions**

When: 20 October 2022 at 09:00-12:00 CET

Where: Slovenian Parliament
(Šubičeva ulica 4, Ljubljana) & Online

Languages: Slovenian / English



**REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
DRŽAVNI SVET**



PROGRAM

09:00 Start of the meeting

- Welcome by **Natalija Svrtan**, Pesticide Action Network Europe
- Welcome by **Cvetko Zupančič**, Chair of the Commission for Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia

09:10 - 09:50 Keynote speeches

European and Slovenian institutions together in ecological support to Slovenian agriculture

- **Tatjana Buzeti**, State Secretary responsible for Agriculture, Food and Fishery
- Pathways towards a pesticide-free agriculture in Europe, **Christian Huyghe**, Scientific Director of Agriculture, INRAE (online)
- Can we ensure food security and self-sufficiency without conventional agriculture, **Branko Tomažič**, Vice Chair of the Commission for Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia

09:50 - 10:35 Pathways towards pesticide-free future

- **Franc Bogovič**, Member of the European Parliament (online)
- SPRINT project and case study in Slovenia - dr. **Matjaž Glavan**, Biotechnical faculty University of Ljubljana
- Breaking the pesticide dependency treadmill by moving towards biodynamic vegetable growing - **Zvone Černelič**, the organic vegetable farmer
- The potential of the organic sector in Slovenia - **Aleš Fister**, organic farmer

10:35 - 11:05 Towards a pesticide-free agriculture in Slovenia with the uptake of alternatives such as biocontrol

- Applying functional (agro-)biodiversity as a tool to increase orchard resilience - **Lene Sigsgaard**, University of life science Copenhagen (online)
- Biocontrol solutions proven to work in Slovenian agro-environment - dr. **Jaka Razinger**, Kmetijski Inštitut Slovenije
- Biological control solutions and their benefits - their essential role for a full agroecological transition working with nature - **Jennifer Lewis**, IBMA (online)

11:05 - 11:40 Solutions for nature-friendly and economically efficient farming methods

- Beginnings of biodynamics in Slovenia - **Meta Vrhunc**, Založba Ajda Vrzdenc
- Reducing the use of chemically synthetic pesticides without reducing the yield - **Marija Marinček**, President of NGO Zveza društev ekoloških kmetov Slovenije
- Brand DEMETER - **Dr. Mihael Kasaš**, President of NGO Združenje Demeter Slovenija
- The potential of organic agriculture as a method for protecting nature and the environment in Slovenia - **Prof. dr. Martina Bavec**, University of Maribor, Slovenian ambassador of organic farming

11:40 – 11:55 Debate with participants

11:55 Closing word by David Cary